

The State of Washington



Proclamation

WHEREAS, the state of Washington is committed to continued leadership in highway-rail grade crossing and pedestrian safety; and

WHEREAS, highway-grade crossing crashes during the year 2020 resulted in five persons killed and another seven persons injured in the state of Washington; and

WHEREAS, pedestrian/railroad trespass incidents on railroad property during the year 2020 resulted in 20 persons killed and another 14 persons injured in the state of Washington; and

WHEREAS, highway-grade crossing crashes are more severe than highway collisions and are more likely to result in death and injury; and

WHEREAS, collisions between trains and motor vehicles or pedestrians could have been prevented by increased public awareness of the dangers at crossings and around railroad property and the appropriate safety laws; and

WHEREAS, Operation Lifesaver is the foremost public information and education program dedicated to preventing highway-rail grade crossing crashes and pedestrian/railroad trespass incidents; and

WHEREAS, on September 20 - 26, 2021, and throughout the year, all citizens are encouraged to observe added caution as motorists or pedestrians near tracks or trains; and

WHEREAS, this important observance should lead to greater safety awareness and a reduction in highway-rail grade crossings crashes and pedestrian/railroad incidents;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jay Inslee, Governor of the state of Washington, do hereby proclaim September 20-26, 2021, as

Rail Safety Week

in Washington, and I encourage all people in our state to participate in activities to reduce crossing crashes and pedestrian/railroad trespass incidents during this week and throughout the year.

Signed this 8th day of September, 2021

Governor Jay Inslee

